

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Patent Application of )  
Junichiro SAKATA et al. )  
Japanese Priority Application No. 2003-037375 ) Attn: Applications  
Japanese Priority Date: February 14, 2003 ) Branch  
For: MANUFACTURING APPARATUS ) Date: February 10, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

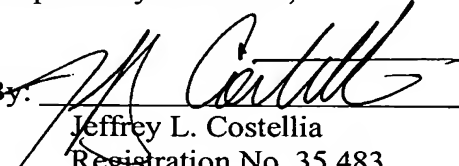
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application No. US 2001/0006827 A1 is in the same family as Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-247959, and U.S. Patent Application No. US 2002/0011205 A1 is in the same family as Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-060926.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By:   
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<b>Complete if Known</b>			
				Application Number		New Application	
				Filing Date		February 10, 2004	
				First Named Inventor		Junichiro SAKATA et al.	
				Art Unit			
Examiner Name							
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		740756-2713	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		US 2001/0006827 A1	07/05/2001	Yamazaki et al.	
		US 2002/0011205 A1	01/31/2002	Yamazaki et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 2002-060926	02/28/2002	Yamazaki et al.		Abstract
		JP 2001-247959	09/14/2001	Yamazaki et al.		Abstract
		JP 2001-093667	04/06/2001	Sano et al.		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.